

# Clean Water Action Plan:

## 2001 Budget Request

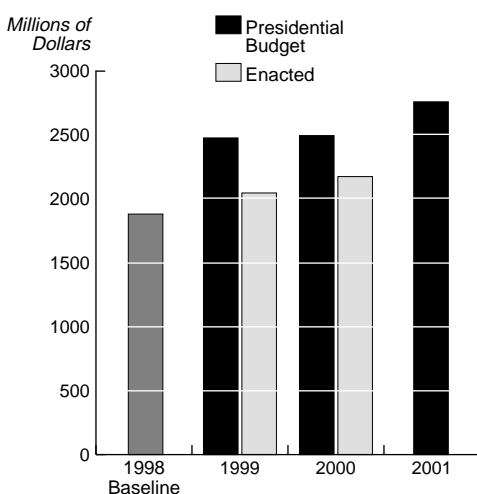


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### Why is the Clean Water Action Plan Important?

- The Clean Water Action Plan is about restoring and protecting the rivers, lakes, coastal waters, and wetlands Americans love.
- The Action Plan encourages federal actions to protect public health, address polluted runoff, protect natural resources, and improve citizen participation in protecting our watersheds. It describes ambitious goals and promotes tools and resources to help farmers, landowners, local watershed groups, states and tribes meet them.

### Clean Water Action Plan Funding



- Much has been accomplished during the first two years since publication of the Action Plan. As the Action Plan moves into its third year, the agencies implementing key actions described in the Action Plan will emphasize greater cooperation at the regional level as well as more involvement from stakeholders in local watersheds.

### Budget Summary

The President's 2001 Budget requests significant new funding for several key programs that will:

- Address and improve water quality on public lands through intensive riparian land management, aggressive weed control, abandoned mine cleanup and implementation of new standards and guidelines for live-stock management.
- Provide funding to states for Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) development, focus remediation and restoration activities at specific Great Lakes Areas of Concern, and expand polluted runoff control grants to assist states in the development and implementation of Watershed Restoration Action Strategies.
- Reduce flood damage and restore streambanks and other critical habitat.

The Action Plan is based on existing programs and funding as well as new investments to address problems in our watersheds. Federal, state, tribal, and local partners have made substantial progress over the past two years in implementing the Action Plan's 111 key actions.



# Second Year Accomplishments

## **Watershed Restoration Action Strategies (WRASs).**

All states and over 80 tribes have submitted Unified Watershed Assessments (UWAs). Subsequently, over 200 WRASs have been or are being developed for priority watersheds. Additional Clean Water Act Section 319 polluted runoff funding is being targeted to these watersheds.

**Animal Feeding Operations (AFOs).** EPA and USDA jointly issued a national strategy to minimize the water quality and public health impacts of AFOs. USDA published draft technical guidance for public comment on December 3, 1999 for developing comprehensive nutrient management plans, a cornerstone of the strategy.

## **Address Polluted Runoff**

- ***Funding to Control Polluted Runoff.*** Starting in FY 2000, States with approved and upgraded nonpoint source programs received incremental funding of \$100 million to develop and implement WRASs.
- ***New Curbs on Storm Water Runoff.*** In December 1999, EPA published a new rule to protect America's drinking water and waterways by curbing storm water runoff from construction sites between one and five acres and from municipal storm sewer systems in smaller communities.

## **Protect Public Lands**

The Clean Water Action Plan called on federal land and resource managers to restore and protect watersheds in their care.

- ***Accelerate Abandoned Mines Clean-up.*** The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has expanded the abandoned mine land cleanup program from 3 to 9 states. The Office of Surface Mining (OSM) expanded its abandoned coal mine cleanup efforts with states and watershed groups through its Appalachian Clean Streams Initiative.
- ***Stream Corridor Restoration.*** BLM, US Forest Service, Fish and Wildlife, and other agencies have restored and improved a significant amount of miles of stream corridor and riparian habitat.
- ***Cooperative Science.*** More than 35 water quality monitoring projects have been initiated in our national parks.

## **Protect Coastal Waters**

Coastal waters are among our most valuable natural assets. NOAA and EPA are continuing to work with 29 coastal states and territories on implementing their coastal nonpoint source pollution control programs and assisting four coastal states to develop new coastal nonpoint programs. NOAA also assisted coastal states to accelerate cleanup and restoration at 35 hazardous waste sites not covered by CERCLA and provided watershed analysis and mapping to 10 state and community partners for use as decision-making tools.

## **Enhance Private Land Stewardship**

The conservation of private land is vital to enhance and restore water quality.

- ***National Conservation Buffer Initiative.*** This cooperative venture has resulted in over 720,000 miles of conservation buffers established.
- ***Stream Corridor Restoration.*** Twelve watershed projects have been selected to showcase stream corridor restoration technology and methods for improving the community, environment, and water quality.
- ***Wetlands.*** Nearly 120,000 acres of wetlands were enrolled in the Wetlands Reserve Program and 14,800 wetland acres were restored by the Fish and Wildlife Service and its partners.

## **Protect Public Health**

Americans rely on clean water. The quality of our rivers, lakes and coastal waters can directly affect the quality of our tap water and the fish and shellfish we eat.

- ***Harmful Algal Blooms.*** NOAA and other state and federal partners are conducting research to provide better predictive tools for harmful algal bloom outbreaks. One example is intensive monitoring of streams in Maryland and Florida, which have experienced outbreaks of harmful algal blooms such as pfiesteria and red tides, to identify environmental conditions that are precursors to these outbreaks.
- ***Essential Fish Habitats.*** NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service and eight regional fishery management councils designated essential fish habitats for 39 fishery management plans, comprising over 600 managed species. The areas designated as essential fish habitats will receive additional protection through advance consultations with agencies planning activities in these areas.

# 2001 Budget Request (Highlights)



## Department of Agriculture

- **Environmental Quality Incentives Program** **+\$151 million**  
Funding will increase Natural Resources Conservation Service support for implementing the voluntary component of the Animal Feeding Operations strategy. EQIP will boost assistance to farmers and ranchers on their voluntary efforts to prevent polluted runoff and manage manure as a resource by helping them develop comprehensive nutrient management plans.
- **Improve Water Quality on Public Lands** **+\$85 million**  
The Forest Service will enhance watershed conditions on public lands through design of management activities that minimize impacts, increase watershed condition assessments, and other watershed improvements. Private sector conservation stewardship will be encouraged through increased cost-shared planning and incentive programs with forest landowners.



## Department of the Interior

- **Wetland Habitat Conservation** **+\$15 million**  
The Department of the Interior will expand its partnership-driven wetlands habitat conservation program to improve water quality and wetlands habitats for migratory birds and other wildlife that depend upon these resources.
- **Address Pollution From Abandoned Mines** **+\$14 million**  
To address the significant polluted drainage and runoff from abandoned mines that affect many watersheds, the Department of the Interior will fund grants to states and partners by using cooperative agreements with local groups to implement high priority clean-up projects.



## Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

- **Harmful Algal Blooms, Toxic Contaminants and Coastal Polluted Runoff** **+\$7 million**  
Funding will support expanded research, monitoring and rapid response to identify causes and effects of outbreaks of harmful algal blooms. Funding will also provide assistance to coastal states to expedite cleanup of toxic

waste sites and the subsequent restoration of coastal resources, and provide support for coastal states and territories to develop and implement coastal nonpoint programs to reduce polluted runoff to coastal waters.



## Department of Defense US Army Corps of Engineers

- **“Challenge 21” Flood Protection and Ecosystem Restoration** **+\$20 million**  
The Riverine Ecosystem Restoration and Flood Hazard Mitigation Program, called the Challenge 21 Initiative, will expand use of non-structural flood damage reduction in combination with restoration of riverine ecosystems. Authorized in the Water Resources Development Act of 1999, this initiative will apply the watershed approach and expanded partnerships for flood plain restoration in priority areas to reduce flood damage and increase habitat.



## Environmental Protection Agency

- **Water Quality Management** **+ 95 million**  
Funding will provide an additional \$50 million in polluted runoff control grants to states with approved and upgraded nonpoint source programs to help them develop and implement Watershed Restoration Action Strategies. EPA also requests a \$45 million increase in water quality management grants targeted to help states develop pollution allocations, or Total Maximum Daily Loads.
- **Great Lakes Restoration** **+ 50 million**  
This new initiative will provide matching grants to state and local governments to restore polluted "areas of concern" in the Great Lakes.



# Clean Water Action Plan Funding Summary



Total 2001 Increase  
Total Increase 2001 over 2000

\$584 million  
27%

(Budget Authority -- \$ in millions)

|   | 1998           | 1999           | 2000           | 2001         |                |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|
|   | Enacted        | Enacted        | Enacted        | Increase     | Budget         |
| <b>Funding by Agency</b>  |                |                |                |              |                |
| <b>Environmental Protection Agency:</b>                                 |                |                |                |              |                |
| State and Tribal Grant Assistance                                       |                |                |                |              |                |
| Polluted runoff control grants (Sec. 319)                               | 105            | 200            | 200            | 50           | 250            |
| State program management grants (Sec. 106)                              | 96             | 116            | 116            | 45           | 161            |
| Great Lakes Areas of Concern  | 0              | 0              | 0              | 50           | 50             |
| Wetlands protection grants  | 15             | 15             | 15             | 0            | 15             |
| Water quality cooperative agreements                                    | 20             | 19             | 19             | 0            | 19             |
| Water quality program management  | 248            | 255            | 253            | 14           | 267            |
| Total, EPA  | \$484          | \$605          | \$603          | \$159        | \$762          |
| <b>Department of Agriculture:</b>                                       |                |                |                |              |                |
| Natural Resources Conservation Service: Env. Quality Incentives Program | (200)*         | (174)*         | (174)*         | (151)        | (325)*         |
| Natural Resources Conservation Service: Locally-led conservation        | 0              | 0              | 0              | 10           | 10             |
| Natural Resources Conservation Service: Watershed health monitoring     | 0              | 0              | 0              | 3            | 3              |
| Natural Resources Conservation Service: Animal Feeding Op. Strategy     | ---            | ---            | 19             | 54           | 73             |
| Forest Service: Improve water quality on federal lands <sup>1</sup>     | 468            | 503            | 542            | 85           | 627            |
| Agriculture Research Service: Watershed health research                 | 0              | 1              | 1              | 4            | 5              |
| Total, USDA   | \$468          | \$504          | \$562          | \$156        | \$718          |
| <b>Department of the Interior:</b>                                      |                |                |                |              |                |
| Bureau of Land Management: Improve water quality on federal lands       | 147            | 161            | 163            | 4            | 167            |
| Office of Surface Mining: Abandoned mine water quality                  | 5              | 7              | 18             | 14           | 32             |
| US Geological Survey: Water monitoring and assessment                   | 125            | 138            | 138            | 0            | 138            |
| Fish and Wildlife Service: Wetlands restoration                         | 36             | 42             | 43             | 15           | 58             |
| Total, DOI  | \$313          | \$348          | \$362          | \$33         | \$395          |
| <b>National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration:</b>           |                |                |                |              |                |
| Polluted runoff, harmful algal blooms and toxic contaminants            | 0              | 17             | 15             | 7            | 22             |
| Total NOAA  | \$0            | \$17           | \$15           | \$7          | \$22           |
| <b>Army Corps of Engineers:</b>   |                |                |                |              |                |
| Wetlands programs   | 106            | 106            | 117            | 8            | 125            |
| Challenge 21: Floodplain restoration initiative                         | 0              | 0              | 0              | 20           | 20             |
| Total, USACE  | \$106          | \$106          | \$117          | \$28         | \$145          |
| <b>Interagency Projects:</b>  |                |                |                |              |                |
| Florida Everglades  | 228            | 221            | 284            | 50           | 334            |
| California Bay Delta  | 85             | 75             | 60             | 0            | 60             |
| Elimination of Overlap between Everglades and other Water programs      | -5             | -5             | -5             | 0            | -5             |
| <b>Discretionary Total</b>  | <b>\$1,679</b> | <b>\$1,870</b> | <b>\$1,998</b> | <b>\$433</b> | <b>\$2,431</b> |
| <b>Total CWAP (with Mandatory Spending)</b>                             | <b>\$1,879</b> | <b>\$2,044</b> | <b>\$2,172</b> | <b>\$584</b> | <b>\$2,756</b> |

\* Indicates Mandatory Spending

<sup>1</sup> FY 1999 and FY 2000 funding has been adjusted for comparability purposes to reflect a change in the budget presentation.

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